

HB6187



99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2015 and 2016

HB6187

Introduced 2/11/2016, by Rep. Brandon W. Phelps

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

520 ILCS 5/2.25

from Ch. 61, par. 2.25

Amends the Wildlife Code. Provides that rifles with cartridges that fire a bullet of .357-inch diameter or larger, have a minimum case length of 1.16 inches, and have a maximum case length of 1.8 inches may be used to take deer. Effective immediately.

LRB099 17771 MGM 42133 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning wildlife.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Wildlife Code is amended by changing Section
5 2.25 as follows:

6 (520 ILCS 5/2.25) (from Ch. 61, par. 2.25)

7 Sec. 2.25. It shall be unlawful for any person to take deer
8 except (i) with a shotgun, handgun, rifle, or muzzleloading
9 rifle or (ii) as provided by administrative rule, with a bow
10 and arrow, during the open season of not more than 14 days
11 which will be set annually by the Director between the dates of
12 November 1st and December 31st, both inclusive, or a special
13 3-day, youth-only season between the dates of September 1 and
14 October 31. For the purposes of this Section, legal handguns
15 include any centerfire handguns of .30 caliber or larger with a
16 minimum barrel length of 4 inches. The only legal ammunition
17 for a centerfire handgun is a cartridge of .30 caliber or
18 larger with a capability of at least 500 foot pounds of energy
19 at the muzzle. For the purposes of this Section, legal rifles
20 must use cartridges that fire a bullet of .357-inch diameter or
21 larger, have a minimum case length of 1.16 inches, and have a
22 maximum case length of 1.8 inches. Full metal jacket bullets
23 may not be used to harvest deer.

1 The Department shall make administrative rules concerning
2 management restrictions applicable to the firearm and bow and
3 arrow season.

4 It shall be unlawful for any person to take deer except
5 with a bow and arrow during the open season for bow and arrow
6 set annually by the Director between the dates of September 1st
7 and January 31st, both inclusive.

8 It shall be unlawful for any person to take deer except
9 with (i) a muzzleloading rifle or (ii) bow and arrow during the
10 open season for muzzleloading rifles set annually by the
11 Director.

12 The Director shall cause an administrative rule setting
13 forth the prescribed rules and regulations, including bag and
14 possession limits and those counties of the State where open
15 seasons are established, to be published in accordance with
16 Sections 1.3 and 1.13 of this Act.

17 The Department may establish separate harvest periods for
18 the purpose of managing or eradicating disease that has been
19 found in the deer herd. This season shall be restricted to gun
20 or bow and arrow hunting only. The Department shall publicly
21 announce, via statewide news release, the season dates and
22 shooting hours, the counties and sites open to hunting, permit
23 requirements, application dates, hunting rules, legal weapons,
24 and reporting requirements.

25 The Department is authorized to establish a separate
26 harvest period at specific sites within the State for the

1 purpose of harvesting surplus deer that cannot be taken during
2 the regular season provided for the taking of deer. This season
3 shall be restricted to gun or bow and arrow hunting only and
4 shall be established during the period of September 1st to
5 February 15th, both inclusive. The Department shall publish
6 suitable prescribed rules and regulations established by
7 administrative rule pertaining to management restrictions
8 applicable to this special harvest program. The Department
9 shall allow unused gun deer permits that are left over from a
10 regular season for the taking of deer to be rolled over and
11 used during any separate harvest period held within 6 months of
12 the season for which those tags were issued at no additional
13 cost to the permit holder subject to the management
14 restrictions applicable to the special harvest program.

15 (Source: P.A. 97-907, eff. 8-7-12; 98-368, eff. 8-16-13.)

16 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
17 becoming law.